

What is Claimed:

1. (currently amended) In a cargo carrying helicopter wherein the cargo is suspended below the helicopter chassis the improvement comprising: a helicopter prop wash deflector means for deflecting prop wash away from said cargo including a skirt disposed between the helicopter chassis and the cargo and extending outwardly and opening downwardly over the suspended cargo, said skirt terminating in [[a]] an outwardly directed circumferential lip, said skirt being rigid and substantially frusto-conical.
2. (original) The improvement of Claim 1 wherein said skirt extends over the helicopter landing gear.
3. (original) The improvement of Claim 1 wherein the lip extends outwardly in a substantially horizontal direction.
4. (original) The improvement of Claim 3 wherein the lip is semicircular in cross section, opening upwardly.
5. (original) The improvement of Claim 1 wherein said skirt is plexiglass.
6. (canceled) The improvement of Claim 1 wherein the skirt is substantially frusto-conical.
7. (original) The improvement of Claim 1 wherein the skirt is substantially elliptical in cross-section.
8. (original) The improvement of Claim 1 wherein the cargo is anchored to the skirt.

9. (original)The improvement of Claim 1 wherein the skirt is attached to the helicopter chassis.

10. (original)The improvement of Claim 1 wherein the skirt comprises a plurality of interconnected sections.

11. (original)The improvement of Claim 10 wherein at least one of said sections is opaque.

12. (original)The improvement of Claim 10 wherein at least one of said sections is transparent.